



LARGEST MOSCOW BANK ROBBED

ROBBERS SECURE AN IMMENSE SUM

Credit Mutual, Wealthy Moscow Bank Entered in Broad Daylight By 20 Masked Men and Robbed of Nearly Half Million.

GUARD BOUND AND GAGGED PREVENTING OUTCRY

JUST AS BANK IS CLOSING FOR THE DAY TWENTY MASKED MEN ENTER SURPRISE GUARD AND SECURE \$432,500—ROBBERS WERE THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH BANK—ALARM GIVEN TWENTY MINUTES LATER.

MOSCOW, March 20.—The Credit Mutual, one of the largest banks in Moscow, was mysteriously robbed by masked men at dusk tonight, the robbers securing \$432,500. It was an unusually daring move. The facts already developed raise the question whether the robbery was committed by or under the direction of some one at or previously connected with the institution. The bank is located in the heart of the city. The last of the clerks had just departed, leaving inside a guard of three men, while under the Porte Cochere outside were policemen and the house porter. The street was crowded with people hurrying homeward. According to the story of the guards, in a twinkling of an eye they were confronted with revolvers in the hands of twenty masked men, who entered silently by the main door, which had been locked when the office force left. Except the command to the guard to hold up their hands not a word was spoken. The

guards were quickly bound and gagged and thrown into a dark corner. The robbers then took position at all the entrances and the window curtains were lowered. The chief of the robbers who directed his associates by gestures and without speaking showed a thorough familiarity with the location of the vaults. When all was ready he went to the heavy burglar proof safe and with a few twirls of the knob threw the combination of the lock, the heavy doors swung open and the treasure of the bank was revealed. The plunder consisting of gold, silver and notes was speedily thrust into sacks. This done, the robbers departed as silently as they came, making their exit through the main entrance and leaving no trace behind them. They had been in the bank less than half an hour. Twenty minutes later one of the guards succeeded in releasing himself and gave the alarm. It is the general impression the key to the mystery is within the bank itself.

MOORS HAVE SAY.

PARIS, March 20.—The Moorish pretender and ninety-six chiefs have protested at the Algerias convention and declared that when the pretender is victorious he will not be bound by the decision of the conference.

"LITTLE THINGS"

House Spends Much Time on Points of Order.

Economy in Little Things Was All Absorbing Topic For Debate in House Yesterday—Move to Eliminate Packing Boxes Fails.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The house today did business with a microscope in one hand and the legislative appropriation bill in the other. The result was that although over five hours was spent in reading the measure less than twenty-five pages was completed. Economy in little things was all absorbing. The points of order made and many of them were fatal to the proposed increases in the salaries of officers, janitors, doorkeepers, messengers and laborers. A point of order made in the appropriation for an engine room at \$270 per year instead of \$280 caused a constitutional debate for more than an hour. The final round of the day was a debate as to whether the house could get as good packing boxes as the Senate did for its members. A move was made to eliminate packing boxes entirely from the perquisites of the members but it failed.

THREATENED TIE-UP.

Booth-Kelly Company Cannot Secure Workmen.

EUGENE, Ore., March 20.—The Booth-Kelly sawmills in Lane county are threatened with a tie-up by shortage of labor. For several months the big mills at Springfield and Coburg have been running night and day, but unless more men can be obtained soon, Manager R. A. Booth thinks the company will be compelled to abandon the night shifts.

To relieve the situation, the company has within the past few days put to work over 100 Scandinavians brought out from the Middle West.

The officials of the company say the labor shortage is beginning to become a serious matter with them. They say there is no immediate relief in sight. With the great amount of railroad work to begin in the Northwest as soon as Spring opens, requiring thousands of men, the Booth-Kelly people consider that the situation appears exceedingly blue for them. The company pays good wages, but none but transient laborers, who are never satisfied to work at one place more than a few weeks, are secured, and the company is kept constantly busy filling the places of those who leave.

NO CONFIRMATION OF WITTE'S RETIREMENT

ST. PETERSBURG, March 20.—No confirmation of the reported intention of Witte to retire immediately, is obtainable at the premier's chancellery. On the contrary the possibility of his relinquishing the task at the pending meeting of the national assembly is

MARTYR TO SCIENCE.

Professor Kills Fraternity Dog and is Sued.

SEATTLE, March 20.—Charles W. Prentiss, professor of Zoology in the University of Washington, was made defendant in an odd suit. On Monday he killed a dog belonging to the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. The fraternity boys evidently mourn the loss of the dog as their flag hangs at half mast in honor of the martyr to science. Prentiss says he thought he was killed a stray dog and at the same time securing material for his Zoology classes. He further says the canine was a community nuisance.

JURY ADJOURNS.

Cannot Conclude Investigation Until Operators Are Found.

PUEBLO, March 20.—A special to the Chief of Police from Canon City states the coroner's jury which is investigating the Adobe disaster reported it cannot fix the responsibility until it hears the testimony of operators Lively and Van Dusen of Swallow. As neither could be produced the inquest adjourned until Monday. The officers continue to search for the missing men.

DOCTOR IS WOUNDED PIERCE WAS SICK

Has Fight With Robber Who Shoots Him in Groin.

Highwayman Enters Drug Store on Pretense of Having Toothache and Tries to Rob Proprietor—Fight Ensues—Robber Escapes.

PORTLAND, March 20.—Dr. J. J. Fisher, who conducts a drug store at 650 Glisan street, was shot and seriously injured tonight by a highwayman, who secured admittance to the store just after it had been closed for the night on the pretense of a severe toothache.

Fisher who is 65 years old went to get the medicine and holding in one hand the sack of money. While the druggist was in the act of reaching for a bottle the robber said:

"Say, old man, I don't want the medicine, I want that money," and attempted to grab the sack. Fisher and the robber grappled, and wrestled about the floor, the doctor laying the better of his assailant though the latter was a young man.

Of a sudden, the robber put his hand to his coat pocket and a muffled explosion occurred. The aged doctor fell to the floor with a wound in his groin and the robber left without trying further to secure a sack.

Dr. Fisher's clerk, who was in the store when the robber entered, disappeared out the back door at the first sign of trouble, calling "Police."

NO SIGN OF TROUBLE.

Returned Missionary Says China is Quiet So Far.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 20.—Miss Anna B. Cole, a young Baptist missionary, who has been in the far interior of China for the past two years, arrived yesterday on the liner Coptic on her way to Cleveland, Ohio. With Miss Cole were Gretchen and Kathleen Wellwood, daughters of Rev. Robert Wellwood, a missionary in Szechen, not far from the border of Tibet, 2000 miles up Yangtze-kiang from Shanghai.

The trip made by Miss Cole and her two young charges was one of most unusual character. Leaving Suifu on January 15 in a native boat, accompanied by a guard in charge of soldiers, Miss Cole and the two little girls started down the river, traveling only by day. On the way down their boat was wrecked on a rock and the party had a narrow escape for their lives, finally reaching Shanghai in safety.

Miss Cole says there were no signs of trouble at Suifu when she left and when the missionaries there received a cable from the State Department advising them to be ready for flight they cabled back for an explanation.

CARRYING DYNAMITE.

WINNIPEG, March 20.—The mounted police are held in readiness at Calgary, MacLeod and Lethbridge to prevent an attack on the Lethbridge Coal mines where the miners are said to be going around with dynamite in their pockets and writing threatening letters to the managers of the mines.

Missouri Standard Oil Inquiry Does Not Hear Pierce.

Stock Certificates Produced Showing That Standard Held Stock in the Waters-Pierce Company in 1900—Other Evidence.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—The second day's session of the hearing in the ouster case of Missouri against the Standard, Republic and Waters-Pierce Oil Companies, was marked by the failure of H. C. Pierce to appear as a witness. The testimony of his physician to the effect that Pierce was threatened with pneumonia was given. C. M. Adams, secretary and treasurer of the Waters-Pierce Company was severely cross examined. Stock certificates which were produced showed that the Standard held stock in the Waters-Pierce Company in 1900, when that company was reorganized. Attorney-General Hadley today telegraphed Missouri's Secretary of State not to permit the Republic to withdraw from business Missouri as that would defeat the purpose of the investigation.

HITS UNCHARTERED ROCK.

VICTORIA, March 20.—The steamer Otter arrived from Ladysmith in a leaking condition, having struck an uncharted rock near Thetie Island. She is to be hauled out for repairs.

DEVELOPMENTS PROMISED IN THE "SCOTTY" CASE

SAN BERNARDINO, March 20.—Developments in the Scott case today included a statement made by A. W. St. Clair to the district attorney and the promise from "Shorty" Smith who is in jail here closely guarded, that he will make a statement. Smith denies he was

MOODY SPEAKS ALL DAY IN THE PACKERS' TRIAL

Attorney General Concludes His Argument—Declare the Packers Were not Compelled to Testify and Are not Free From Prosecution.

ARRAIGNS PACKERS FOR ATTACKING TEDDY

MOODY SCORES THE PACKERS' AT TORNEYS FOR PLACING THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER IN EVIDENCE—DECLARES PACKERS ARE NOT ENTITLED TO IMMUNITY AS THEY GAVE THEIR TESTIMONY VOLUNTARILY.

CHICAGO, March 20.—Attorney-General Moody spoke nearly all day in the packers' case, concluding his argument just in time to catch the train for Washington. He declared the packers were not entitled to immunity because they had given evidence of their own free will, and were not placed under oath nor subjected to compulsion. At times he was very sarcastic in references to the statements of the attorneys for the defendants. Referring to the President's letter to himself which was placed in record in the case by the packers' attorneys, Moody said he was the last man in the world to say that these gentlemen should not give their best efforts to their clients, but if they felt it their duty to place that letter in evidence when "It touches upon another subject, against the man in the White House, who is unable to come here to protect

himself—if they feel it their duty to make their attack on him—I have little more to say."

General Moody declared that only those who committed acts without the law and who feared the law, ought to be protected by it.

Asked if he forgot that Garfield had told the defendants he was here to investigate the violation of the injunction issued against them restraining them from violating the law against the restraint of trade, Moody said he had not forgotten and did not care. It went to show, he declared, that these men had been warned that criminal action might follow. If they sought the protection of the law, the responsibility is theirs.

Moody concluded by saying if the defendants escape trial, it will be a calamity to the government and for the defendants, whom he holds are innocent until proved guilty.

QUASHES WRITS.

BOISE, March 20.—Judge Beatty in the United States district court today quashed the writs in the habeas corpus cases of Moyer and his associates. He first granted the motion of the prosecution to strike out material parts of the answers. Attorney Richardson gave notice of an appeal to the United States Supreme Court. Judge Beatty decided he had no power to inquire into the methods whereby the prisoners had been brought into this state in the proceedings at bar. He said he was unable to find any provision in the law whereby he had power to remand the prisoners to the sister state after they had been brought into the demanding state, as in the present instance, and now that the prisoners are in Idaho, he cannot make any order to prevent their detention and trial here.

SAVES CREW.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The tug Margaret arrived today with the barge Dempsey in tow after a thrilling experience at sea, in which the Margaret was compelled to abandon the barge Martha McCabe, on which were the captain and two sailors, and the barge Virginia Hudson. The crew of the latter was taken off a desperate struggle with the elements, but it is feared the others perished.

"INSURGENTS" MEET.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Thirty "insurgents" met today and decided to oppose Speaker Cannon's attempt to send the Statehood bill to conference. The insurgents favor the bill as amended in the Senate.

BIG APPROPRIATION

Senate Votes Away \$140,000,000 in Twenty Minutes.

Senate Does Not Consider Pension Appropriation Measure, But Rushes Headlong Through it—Fortifications Bill is Considered.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—In less than twenty minutes the Senate voted away \$140,000,000 in public funds. The sum carried by the pension appropriations bill which brief document was made the subject of very little discussion.

The railroad rate bill was laid aside for a day and the major portion of the time was devoted to a consideration of the fortifications bill. In that connection a provision for seacoast fortifications in the Philippine Islands was eliminated from the bill.

WILL SUE FOR DAMAGES.

DES MOINES, March 20.—Congressman Hull will sue his opponent, former Secretary of State Dobson for damage for slander, because of statements last night in opening his campaign to defeat Hull for Congressman. The speech made serious accusations against Hull.